

In the Claims:

1. (Original) A sterile apparatus for a sustained heating of solution(s) utilized in a medical procedure comprising: ~~a casing; a heating mechanism embedded in the casing; and the casing forming a reservoir for liquid storage.~~

~~an impact resistant housing having an outer surface defining an opening, an interior of the housing defining a canal having a first end communicating with the opening and a second end terminating within the housing for receiving a distal lens of an endoscope;~~

~~a solution disposed adjacent to the second end of the canal;~~

~~the interior of the housing further defining a pocket adjacent to the second end of the canal;~~

~~a catalyst disposed in the pocket;~~

~~the interior of the housing further defining a chamber;~~

~~an unoxidized exothermically decomposable material disposed within the chamber; and~~

~~a connector communicating at one end with the chamber and at another end with the pocket for controllably admitting the material into the pocket for activating an exothermic reaction of the material to heat the solution.~~

Claims 2 and 3 (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for heating solution(s) to be utilized in a medical procedure as in claim 1, ~~whereas wherein~~ the apparatus is ~~disposable~~ ~~configured to be disposable.~~

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for heating solution(s) to be utilized in a medical procedure as in claim 1, ~~whereas wherein~~ the apparatus is ~~configured to be~~

sealed prior to utilization of the apparatus.

7. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for heating solution(s) to be utilized in a medical procedure as in claim 1, ~~whereas the reservoir contains further comprising a valve mechanism(s) disposed within the canal to prevent spillage and intermixing of the solution(s) solution.~~

8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for heating solution(s) to be utilized in a medical procedure as in claim 1, ~~whereas wherein the solution is prepackaged in the apparatus apparatus.~~

Claims 9-11 (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for heating solution(s) to be utilized in a medical procedure as in claim 1, ~~whereas further comprising a securing mechanism is on the outer surface of the apparatus housing in order to be fastened to any a surface.~~

13. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for heating solution(s) to be utilized in a medical procedure as in claim 12, ~~whereas the apparatus is capable of being removed from said surface wherein the securing mechanism is configured to be removably securable to a surface.~~

14. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for heating solution(s) to be utilized in a medical procedure as in claim 12, ~~whereas wherein the securing mechanism is glue.~~

15. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for heating solution(s) to be utilized in a medical procedure as in claim 12, ~~whereas wherein the securing mechanism is Velcro a hook and loop fastener.~~

16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for heating solution(s) to be utilized in a medical procedure as in claim 12, ~~whereas~~wherein the securing mechanism is a bolt.

17. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for heating solution(s) to be utilized in a medical procedure as in claim 12, ~~whereas~~wherein the securing mechanism is a base mechanism ~~permanently-secured~~ securable to ~~the~~a surface ~~which receives the~~ apparatus.

Claims 18-20 (Canceled)

21 (New) An apparatus for heating solution(s) to be utilized in a medical procedure as in claim 1, wherein the solution includes a defogging solution.

22. (New) An apparatus for heating solution(s) to be utilized in a medical procedure as in claim 1, wherein the catalyst includes iron oxide.

23. (New) An apparatus for heating solution(s) to be utilized in a medical procedure as in claim 22, wherein the iron oxide is in the form of at least one of powdered form and pellets.

24. (New) An apparatus for heating solution(s) to be utilized in a medical procedure as in claim 1, wherein the unoxidized exothermically decomposable material includes hydrogen peroxide.

25. (New) An apparatus for heating solution(s) to be utilized in a medical procedure as in claim 1, further comprising a syringe disposed within the chamber, the syringe holding the unoxidized exothermically decomposable material and configured for controllably releasing the material into the pocket via the connector.